



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR  
450 110<sup>th</sup> Ave NE., P.O. BOX 90012  
BELLEVUE, WA 98009-9012

**OPTIONAL DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) NOTICE MATERIALS**

The attached materials are being sent to you pursuant to the requirements for the Optional DNS Process (WAC 197-11-355). A DNS on the attached proposal is likely. This may be the only opportunity to comment on environmental impacts of the proposal. Mitigation measures from standard codes will apply. Project review may require mitigation regardless of whether an EIS is prepared. A copy of the subsequent threshold determination for this proposal may be obtained upon request.

File No. 07-142334-LO & 07-142332-WG

Project Name/Address: Kelsey Creek West Tributary Restoration Critical Areas Land Use Permit and Shoreline Substantial Development Permit  
410 130<sup>th</sup> Ave SE

Planner: Kevin LeClair

Phone Number: 425-452-2928

**Minimum Comment Period: January 14, 2008**

Materials included in this Notice:

- Blue Bulletin
- Checklist
- Vicinity Map
- Plans
- Other:

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

*Purpose of checklist:*

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

*Instructions for applicants:*

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

*Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:*

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

Reviewed by:  
Kevin LeClair  
11/26/2007

Work to occur before July 16 will include the following:

- all site preparation work;
- excavation of the restored channel and the installation of in-stream structures between the North and Central Bridges, as this area is not connected to West Tributary flows; and
- excavation of the wetland restoration area.

Work to occur between July 16 and August 31 will include the following:

- excavation of the restored channel and sediment pond north of the North Bridge, excavation of the off-channel areas, replacement of the bridges, and installation of their pile foundations;
- placement of large woody debris (LWD) into the southern portion of the site; and
- reconnection of the restored channel segments at the North and Central Bridges.

Work to occur after August 31 will include:

- project area planting in fall 2008 (early October and November) and spring 2009 (March and April).

In summary, the anticipated sequencing of construction activities for the project will be:

- best management practices (BMPs), temporary erosion and sediment control (TESC) plan, stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) implementation, and related avoidance and minimization measures;
- site preparation, including reed canarygrass follow-up mowing and spraying;
- bed and bank restoration work between North Bridge and Central Bridge;
- wetland restoration;
- flow diversion and fish removal or exclusion;
- stream channel restoration (in-water) north of North Bridge and south of Central Bridge, including off-channel habitat areas;
- reed canarygrass excavation in areas adjacent to parking lot;
- sediment pond excavation;
- bridge replacements;
- high flow earthen berm installation;
- riparian and wetland plantings; and
- post-construction monitoring.

KL 11/26/07

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The proposed project is a habitat restoration project for a portion of the West Tributary of Kelsey Creek (Figure 1). The goal of the project is to restore and enhance stream and wetland habitat in the West Tributary for the benefit of native wildlife and anadromous fish species. The project has been designed to meet the following objectives: 1) restore approximately 760 linear feet of stream bed and bank conditions to improve fish and wildlife habitat; 2) enhance wetland functions associated with floodplain water storage and improve native plant diversity and wildlife habitat; and 3) restore channel cross section and remove hydraulic constrictions to improve stream flow. In order to achieve the project's goals and general objectives, the project elements have been designed to meet the specific objectives listed below.

Stream Habitat Restoration Objectives:

- maintain pools, riffles, and spawning gravels;
- create at least 0.05 acres of back channel winter rearing habitat for salmonids;
- enhance riparian habitat for wildlife by increasing native plant species diversity and density; and
- create spawning habitat for Chinook and coho salmon.

Wetland Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Objectives:

- restore at least 0.24 acre of jurisdictional wetland between the Central and Southern Bridges;
- enhance at least 2.5 acres of existing wetland on site, maintaining wetland hydrology and hydric soils and their associated water quality and hydrologic functions;
- successfully achieve emergent, scrub-shrub, and forested wetland communities within the restored and enhanced wetlands;
- improve wetland habitats for wildlife by increasing native plant species diversity and density; and
- reduce coverage of nonnative invasive vegetation in the project area by replacement with native species and maintenance.

Stream and Wetland Hydrology and Hydraulics Restoration Objective:

- increase stream channel capacity by removing hydraulic constrictions at the North and Central Bridges, while maintaining wetland hydrology throughout the Park.

The Project Description and Preliminary Construction Plans provide a complete description of the West Tributary Habitat Improvement Project. Main project elements are summarized below.

KL 11/26/07

the pipe will be screened during pipe removal and the pipe will be tilted to ensure no fish are stranded in the pipe.

### **Sediment Pond Creation and Operation/Maintenance**

The sediment pond is designed to capture sediments originating from upstream sources before those sediments enter the restored channel and subsequently fall out of the water column. While the sediment pond will not address the upstream sources of sediment, it will extend the lifespan of the restoration project. Based on the estimated sediment load, the pools and spawning gravels in the project area would be expected to fill with sediments within 2 to 5 years without the sediment pond, but are expected to last 25 years or more with regular maintenance of the sediment pond. Thus, the sediment pond is an essential element of the stream restoration.

The sediment pond will be constructed in line with the restored stream channel, just upstream of the parking lot, and the surface size will be approximately 875 square feet in size during normal stream flow (25 feet wide and 35 feet long). The sediment pond will be excavated to a depth of 8 feet (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet G-2). Approximately 140 cubic yards of material will be removed during excavation. This material will be transported off site and disposed of at an appropriate commercial facility. Once excavation of the pond is complete, three logs with root wads will be placed along the north bank, overhanging the 'back-side' of the pond and the area surrounding the pond will be planted with native emergent and scrub-shrub wetland species. These measures will provide fish and wildlife habitat.

In conjunction with the sediment pond, a permanent maintenance bypass channel will be constructed to divert stream flow around the sediment pond during annual maintenance (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet G2). Construction of the sediment pond and maintenance bypass channel will occur within the project specific, shortened in-water work window (i.e., July 16 through August 31).

Maintenance dredging will occur, at most, once per year, although it may not be required every year. Maintenance dredging will not occur until deposition nears sediment pond capacity. Maintenance dredging will be conducted with an excavator or backhoe scooping the sediment and placing it directly into a dump truck parked adjacent to the pond in the existing parking lot. Water from the excavated material will not be returned to the sediment pond or any other water of the U.S. A permanent gravel access pad will be established in the upland between the sediment pond and the parking lot for the excavator to use while dredging (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet G2). The contractor will dispose of the sediment at an approved upland location.

### **Bridge Replacement and Modification**

Two bridges and their footings will be replaced (North and Central Bridges) and the deck of a third bridge will be replaced (South Bridge). This will remove stream flow constrictions currently caused by the narrow spans of the North and Central Bridges two bridges. The North Bridge is a vehicle bridge that provides access to the farm and upper park facilities located to the east of the West Tributary of Kelsey Creek. The existing bridge has a span of 26 feet and a deck width of 22 feet. Emergency vehicle access to the barns and park facilities must be maintained at all times during construction, so a temporary access road will be constructed while the North Bridge is being replaced (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet SP1). The temporary access road will require the exclusion and removal of fish from the work area and the installation of a culvert to convey stream flow beneath the temporary roadway. The new bridge will have a span of 40 feet and a deck width of 20 feet (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet B1). The new bridge will be installed once the existing bridge is removed. Installation will involve the use of an impact hammer to install 20 4-to 6-inch-diameter steel piles for the bridge foundation (10 piles on each side). Steel piles are necessary due to the load requirements for the North Bridge (able to carry fire trucks loaded with water) and the depth and nature of the subsurface soils in this area. The pilings will be located outside of the channel, and will not constrict stream flows (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet B1). The increased span of the new bridge will improve stream conveyance and the functionality of the stream and associated floodplain and wetlands.

KL 11/26/07

(Preliminary Construction Plans, sheets SP1 and SP2). These areas will be replanted with a mixture of native wetland trees, shrubs, and emergents to enhance wetland habitat and to provide shade and increased wildlife value along the restored stream channel (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet P2).

The project will remove the approximately 10,000 square feet of reed canarygrass monoculture along the parking lot through excavation of the upper 18 inches (Figure 2). These areas will be replanted with a mixture of native wetland trees, shrubs, and emergents to enhance wetland habitat and to restore native emergent wetland species, increase water quality and hydrologic wetland functions, and provide increased wildlife habitat (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet P3).

Ornamental shrubs dating to the 'Japanese garden' era of the park such as bamboo and ornamental rhododendrons, now present along approximately 3,800 square feet of the existing channel, will be cleared via excavation. These areas will be replanted with a mixture of native riparian and wetland trees and shrubs to provide shade and wildlife value along the overflow channel and the center of the channel will be planted with native emergent wetland vegetation (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet P3).

The project will increase the width and native species diversity of the riparian and wetland areas along length of the restored stream channel by planting a mixture of native tree, shrub, and herbaceous/emergent species. Approximately 11,022 square feet of riparian forest species will be planted along the inner edge of the overflow channel and the outer edge of the restored channel (between the North and Central Bridges) (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheets P2 and P3). Approximately 2.6 acres of existing wetland will be enhanced as part of the project. Emergent wetland species will be planted in the existing channel and beneath the bridges, as well as in the wetland area to the west of the picnic shelter that is currently being mowed (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheets P2 through P4). Forested and scrub-shrub wetland will be planted along both sides of the restored stream channel and in a wide zone throughout the wetland between the Central and South Bridges; native conifers will also be planted along the stream channel between the Central and South Bridges (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheets P2 through P4).

Approximately 0.24 acre of wetland will be restored to the west of the stream channel just upstream of the South Bridge (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet G6). The wetland will be restored by excavation of an existing area of fill and grading the area with positive drainage down its center and toward the stream channel. Wetland restoration work would occur before in-water work begins (i.e., before July 16) as there is no grading within or adjacent to the stream channel for this element. The restored wetland area will be planted with a mixture of wetland emergent, scrub-shrub, and forested wetland species (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheet P4).

#### **Project Timeline and Construction Sequencing**

Construction of the project must be completed within a single construction season in order to meet the City's budget and timeline constraints. Project construction is scheduled to begin in spring of 2008. In order to accomplish this size project within a single construction season, multiple activities will likely take place simultaneously, and work will be split into in-water activities and those which can be accomplished outside of the in-water work window.

Project construction will require 3 months. Monitoring activities will occur over a period of 10 years and sediment pond maintenance will occur annually, for the life of the project.

KL 11/26/07

A very small area (approximately 931 square feet; 0.02 acre) of wetland and stream will be permanently filled for the new pile foundations of the North and Central Bridges and to create the overflow berm necessary to direct stream flows into the restored channel.

Fill will be clean, weed-free, topsoil from an approved commercial facility.

These necessary impacts are offset by the wetland enhancement and wetland restoration elements of the project. In total, 2.6 acres of wetland will be enhanced and 0.24 acre of wetland will be restored, compared to approximately 0.02 acre of fill, for a ratio of 12:1 acres of restoration to acres of wetland fill, plus the 2.6 acres of wetland enhancement.

All areas temporarily disturbed will be restored with dense native wetland and riparian vegetation. The approximately 0.15 acre of wetland converted to restored stream channel will be offset by a combination of the 0.14 acre of existing low quality stream channel that will be converted to wetland and the 0.24 acre of wetland restored by removing existing fill.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Erosion could occur in areas of earthwork during construction. Erosion will be minimized as described below in section B1h.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

There will be no change in the coverage of impervious surfaces after project construction; the only impervious surfaces in the park are the parking lot and the paved trails, neither of which will be changed by the proposed project.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Conservation measures are incorporated as part of the project during the design phase to avoid or minimize potential impacts to the environment. BMPs are incorporated during the construction phase to avoid or minimize potential impacts to the environment that may result from construction activities. Construction sequencing and project timing are also project elements that specifically minimize potential impacts to listed species and the environment. The following conservation measures and BMPs are incorporated as part of the project to avoid or minimize potential impacts to the West Tributary, its wetlands, and its associated federally listed species in the project action area.

- Work within the active channel will be completed during a project specific, shortened in-water work window of July 16 through August 31.
- All material used to construct in-stream structures shall be clean of mud, dirt, and other material that could temporarily degrade water quality within the project action area.
- Clearing limits will be marked with flagging wherever clearing is proposed adjacent to the West Tributary.
- Construction equipment will be limited to the minimum access and construction footprint required for the construction of the project.
- The contractor will prepare a detailed Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan, which will identify all of the contingencies in the event of an accidental spill of any hazardous material.

KL 11/26/07

3. Water *OK*

## a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

The West Tributary of Kelsey Creek, a Type F water, runs through the site. The West Tributary flows into Kelsey Creek, which in turn drains to Mercer ~~Island~~ Slough and Lake Washington.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) of the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

In order to restore the stream channel between the North and Central Bridges, some areas of wetland will be converted to stream channel (0.15 acre) and existing low-functioning stream channel will be converted to wetland (0.14 acre). Approximately 2.6 acres of wetland enhancement will occur, as will approximately 0.24 acre of wetland restoration. Small portions of existing wetland and stream channel (0.10 acre combined) will be converted to open water wetland (i.e. the sediment pond) and to back-channel stream habitats.

A small amount of stream and wetland habitat will be temporarily filled for the temporary access road during the North Bridge replacement (approximately 300 square feet), but these areas will be restored to functioning stream and wetland after construction is completed. A very small area (approximately 931 square feet) of wetland and stream (below the ordinary high water mark [OHWM]) will be permanently filled to create the overflow berm and for the pile foundations of the North and Central Bridges.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

Approximately 50 cubic yards of permanent fill and 50 cubic yards of temporary fill will be placed waterward of the OHWM, causing approximately 0.02 acre of permanent impact and 0.006 acre of temporary impacts. The permanent impacts will occur as a result of placing the new bridge footings and the high-flow berm, and the temporary impacts are associated with the temporary construction access road.

Approximately 1,300 cubic yards of material will be excavated from approximately 1.03 acres of waters and wetlands in order to restore the stream channel. These impacts will occur along the existing stream channel between the North and Central Bridges and along the restored stream.

Fill material will be clean, weed-free topsoil from an approved commercial facility.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Flows in the West Tributary will be diverted around the construction zone during in-water construction of the restored stream channel, as previously describe in Question 11.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

Nearly the entire project area is within the 100-year floodplain, as depicted on Figure 3

*KL 11/26/07*

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Approximately 30,000 square feet of invasive vegetation and nonnative landscaping shrubs will be removed from along the existing stream channel and from the alignment of the restored stream channel. These areas will be revegetated with a dense, diverse mixture of native wetland and riparian trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants typical of the area and specifically chosen to enhance the habitat value of the Park for native fish and wildlife species. The Wetland Delineation Report provides additional details regarding non-native plant removal and the Habitat and Native Vegetation Conservation Strategy developed for the proposed restoration project.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

There are no known threatened or endangered plant species known to be on or near the site. A Biological Assessment has been prepared for the project and was submitted in September 2007 to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as part of the federal and state permitting of the project.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

All plants used for the project will be native plants; all work in wetlands has been specifically minimized to avoid areas of the highest quality and function, specifically targeting excavation and associated clearing toward areas of nonnative species and areas where enhancement and restoration of wetland plant communities is needed. The stream channel alignment was specifically designed to avoid mature trees and the areas of highest quality native wetland vegetation and target removal of invasive species.

The project will result in the approximately 2.6 acres of wetland enhancement and 0.24 acre of wetland restoration, all vegetated with native plants.

5. Animals *OK*

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

- \_\_\_\_\_ birds: hawk, **heron**, eagle, songbirds, other:
- \_\_\_\_\_ mammals: deer, bear, elk, **beaver**, other:
- \_\_\_\_\_ fish: bass, **salmon**, **trout**, herring, shellfish, other:

Great blue herons do not currently nest in the project area; however, a great blue heron nesting colony is located approximately 1 mile southwest of the project area. This colony was last monitored in 2000, and there were 17 active nests at that time. Great blue herons from this colony are likely to forage in the project area.

Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon; cutthroat and rainbow trout; sculpins; lamprey; dace; sucker; and bluegill are known to occur in the West Tributary. Chum salmon have also been observed in Kelsey Creek.

Beavers have been observed in the West Tributary. Other wildlife species that may occur based on the presence of suitable habitat include several species identified as being species of local importance by the City of Bellevue: bald eagle, pileated woodpecker, merlin, green heron, red-tailed hawk, western big-eared bat, Keen's myotis, long-legged myotis, long-eared myotis, western toad, and river lamprey. Other wildlife species that are likely to occur in the project area would be those that are adapted to human activity such as raccoon, opossum, American robin, American crow, and waterfowl such as mallard ducks and Canada geese.

*KL 11/26/07*

Removal of nonnative plant species and revegetation with native plant species in wetland, riparian, and upland areas will improve overall wildlife habitat conditions within the project area.

Wildlife foraging habitat will be improved in the project area by increasing the availability of the native flowers, fruits, and nuts that local wildlife are adapted to. The increased diversity of native plants in the project area will make it more likely that food supplies will be continuously available for wildlife over a longer period of time. The diverse variety of plant species was chosen for flowering and fruiting characteristics that provide high quality forage to native wildlife species. Plants were also selected based on the timing of flower, fruit, or seed production, so that food is available throughout much of the year.

A variety of native plant species available throughout the year will provide foraging habitat for a greater number of wildlife species, including those that do not currently occur in the project area. Native plant species also provide food for native insects, which in turn may provide food for insectivores such as the native long-legged and/or long-eared myotis bats.

The project will increase the density of trees and shrubs in the riparian/riverine wetland and will increase the width of forested and shrub habitat along the stream channel. Cover available for wildlife and nesting substrate available for birds will increase as a result. The benefits of increased cover include a decreased risk of predation, a decreased risk of desiccation for amphibian species, and a decreased risk of disturbance and associated energy loss during foraging and nesting. Dense vegetative cover makes it easier for birds to conceal their nests from predators, and for small mammals, reptiles, or amphibians to hide from predators. Increased shade and moisture retention in the riparian zone provides moist, cool microclimate conditions for animals during hot summer weather and can also provide thermal protection from wind during cold weather. A dense riparian buffer also provides a more effective screen between human activities in the Park and nesting or foraging areas, benefiting species such as great blue heron or green heron, allowing them to forage without being disturbed.

An increase in the number and types of trees will also provide nesting habitat for a greater number of species, and may attract tree-nesting species such as merlin into the project area.

Riparian habitat links larger patches of habitat, providing habitat connectivity for species with large home ranges, dispersal habitat for species moving away from a natal area to establish a home range, and linking habitat elements in a home range. The project will provide a wider riparian buffer with considerably denser vegetation. This will increase the quality of the corridor connecting the project area to additional wetland area to the north along the West Tributary, and to an extensive area of wetland associated with the mainstem of Kelsey Creek and ultimately Mercer Slough to the south.

Continuous cover will provide a better migration corridor for a wider range of species, reducing the risk of predation, desiccation, and disturbance to animals moving through the area.

Construction sequencing and project timing will be coordinated to minimize potential impacts on listed species and the environment.

Conservation measures and BMPs incorporated as part of the project to avoid or minimize potential impacts on federally listed species in the project area are identified below.

- Work in the active channel will be completed during a project-specific, shortened in-water work window of July 16 through August 31.
- All material used to construct instream structures will be clean of mud, dirt, and other material that could temporarily degrade water quality in the project action area.
- Clearing limits will be marked with flagging wherever clearing is proposed adjacent to the West Tributary.

KL 11/26/07

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

No energy conservation features are proposed, as this restoration project will not utilize any energy above what is currently used by the park infrastructure.

7. Environmental health *OK*

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

During construction, there will be typical exposure to gasoline, oil, and related materials associated with construction equipment.

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No special emergency services will be required during construction; fire and ambulance services could be required if there was a construction accident.

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

The contractor will prepare a detailed SPCC Plan, which will identify all of the contingencies in the event of an accidental spill of any hazardous material.

Equipment will be refueled in the designated portion of the existing paved parking lot, with absorbent pads in place and spill containment equipment present to reduce the potential for contaminants to reach the water should any sort of accidental spill or leakage occur.

All heavy equipment will be inspected prior to operating each day during project construction. All heavy equipment shall be deemed clean and free of external oil, fuel, or other potential pollutants prior to operating and performing construction activities, particularly in-water work.

A hazardous material spill kit will be on-site, and a hazardous material boom will be set up immediately downstream of the work site in case of a spill when vehicles are working near the active channel.

The contractor will implement the TESC Plan, which will identify the specific measures that will be incorporated as part of the project to minimize or avoid potential erosion of exposed soils and the delivery of fine sediment to surface waters (Preliminary Construction Plans, sheets SP1-2 and T1, and TESC Plan).

8. Noise *OK* *Noise Code 9.18*

- a. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

Residential suburban traffic exists in the area, which typically has an ambient noise level of 50 dBA (A-weighted decibels), but it is not expected to affect the proposed project and local fish and wildlife species are adapted to the level of noise and disturbance typical of this urban park.

*KL 11/26/07*

Excavation of the channel to support the Park's Japanese Garden feature rerouted stream flows away from the eastern, historic stream channel that had existed between 1956 and 1960. Over the approximately 40 years since stream flows were routed through the excavated channel, the historic stream channel has been largely abandoned. This area now supports a dense mixture of native and invasive wetland herbaceous and shrub species with little defined stream channel or bed (Figure 2, Photo 5). Since sometime between 1968 and 1974 when stream flows were routed into the excavated channel, the historic channel carries flows only during flood events and therefore maintains very low hydraulic functions under existing conditions, functioning largely as wetland (Figures 2 and 3).

Stream flows are also currently constricted and the channel cross-section reduced near the confluence of the excavated channel and the historic channel just upstream of the Central Bridge (Photos 6 and 7). Here the channel returns to its historic eastern location circa 1968, but sedimentation has substantially reduced the channel cross-section and hydraulic capacity. South of the Central Bridge, the channel widens slightly and its adjacent riparian zone and associated wetlands are more mature and dominated by largely native tree and shrub species, with an understory of sparse reed canarygrass (Figures 2 and 3; Photo 14). However, the stream is still characterized by a narrow and raised streambed throughout the southern portion of the Park.

Due to the reduced channel cross section and hydraulic constrictions caused by the undersized spans of the North and Central Bridges, the entire western portion of the Park experience seasonal flooding when creek flows increase quickly during storm events. Seasonal high waters flow out of the northern wetland and over the parking lot, out of the western and southern bends in the excavated channel (Photo 8), and from the western side of the large bend in the channel south of the Central Bridge (Photo 10). This flooding supports the floodplain wetland, providing water quality improvement and hydrologic functions (Photo 16), but also reduces flushing of fine sediments within the stream channel and thus impacts the ability of the stream to sustain suitable spawning gravels for salmon.

The proposed project is designed to restore and enhance stream and wetland habitat in the West Tributary for the benefit of native wildlife and anadromous fish species. The project will also provide educational opportunities for park patrons, improve native plant diversity and habitat complexity, and may reduce the depth and duration of seasonal flooding of the parking lot and picnic shelter by restoring a natural channel cross section and by removing the hydraulic constrictions at the North and Central Bridges.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

In 1921 the Dueys purchased 190 acres of land that had been previously logged and created the Twin Valley Dairy Farm on land that is now within the park. The farm operated until 1968 and the City purchased the land in 1969.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

The park contains a child's playground, paved and gravel walking trails, an amphitheater, and parking lots. Structures located within the Park include buildings associated with the farm, specifically two large historic barns, a farmhouse, and other smaller outbuildings; a picnic shelter; restroom facilities; and a historic log cabin (Figure 2 and Photos 9, 11, 13, 17, 19, and 20).

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

None of these structures will be demolished.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

R-1

KL 11/26/07

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

No housing is proposed or will be eliminated

11. Aesthetics OK

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

~~No structures are proposed~~ Replacement Bridges

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

Views to the east from residential properties adjacent to the Park will be altered as a result of the restoration of native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants to the wetland and floodplain adjacent to the West Tributary

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

Trees will be clustered together and located in areas between the viewsheds of adjacent residential properties to reduce view obstruction.

12. Light and glare OK

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

No light or glare will be produced by the proposed project.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No light or glare will be produced by the proposed project.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

Existing adjacent properties have exterior security lights, and the surrounding streets have streetlights, but these do not affect the park under current conditions and will not affect the proposed project.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

No light or glare will be produced by the proposed project.

13. Recreation OK

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Kelsey Creek Park provides passive recreational activities such as walking, jogging, picnicking, as well as a children's playground and park programs associated with the farm and historic barns and log cabin.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No recreational uses will be displaced by the project. The Park will continue to provide the farm and related programs, walking, picnicking, and related passive recreation opportunities under post-project conditions.

KL 11/26/07

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

The park currently has approximately 40 parking spaces in the parking lot located at the northern end of the Park. There will be no change in the number or configuration of parking spaces in the parking lot as a result of the project.

*Temporary Closure of some parking stalls*

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

There will be no change or improvement to any roads or streets as a result of the project.

- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

No increase in vehicular trips to the Park is anticipated as a result of the restoration project

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

Haul routes for use by construction equipment during project construction are identified on Sheets 1 and 2 of the Preliminary Construction Plans; the contractor will develop a Traffic Control Plan for the Park's internal road to ensure access to all Park facilities during construction.

#### 16. Public services *OK*

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No increase in public services will result from the habitat restoration project.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

There will not be any impacts on public services resulting from the project

#### 17. Utilities *OK*

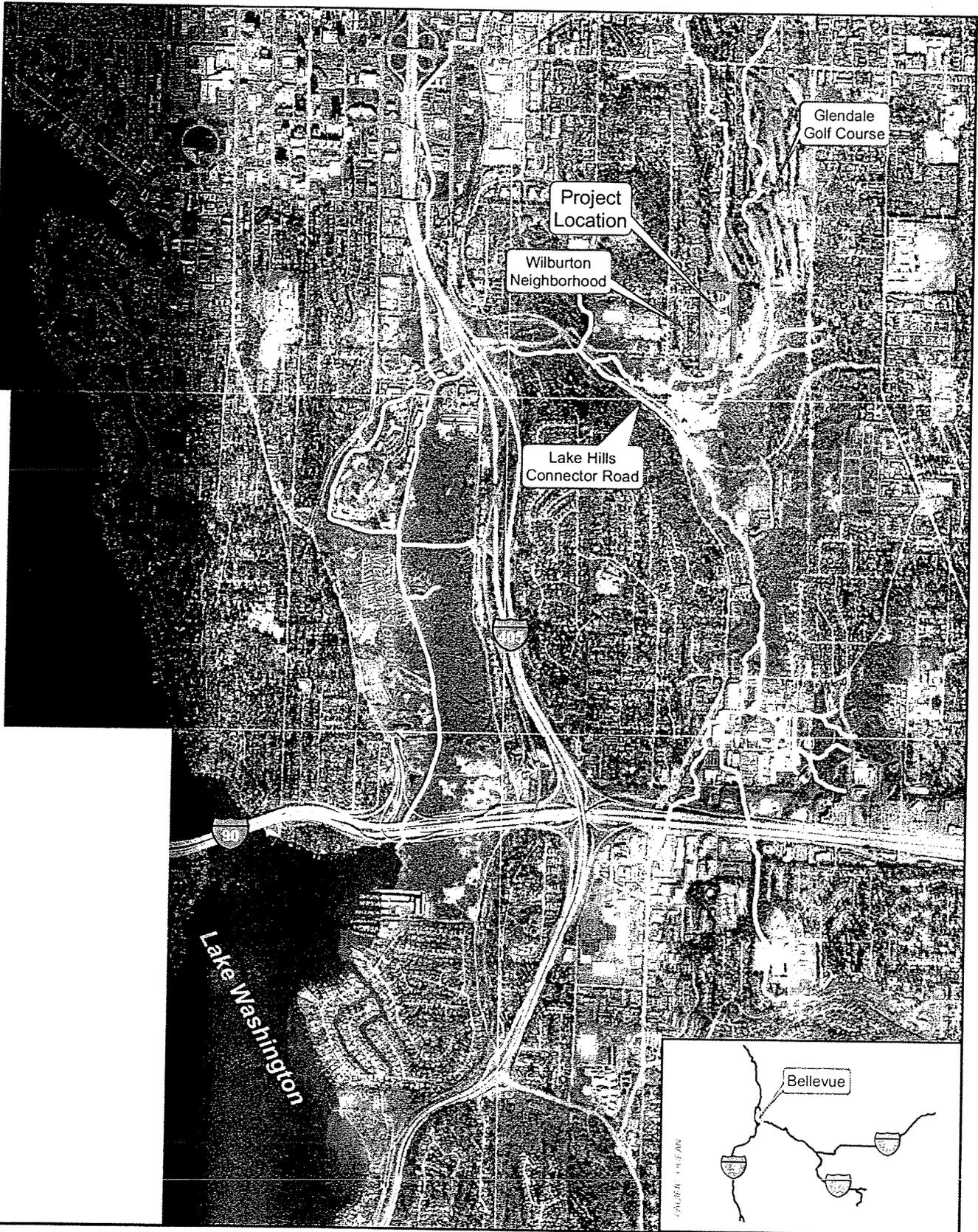
- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

Electricity, water, garbage pickup, and sanitary sewer are present within the Park. The barns also have telephone services and natural gas.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No new utilities are proposed as part of the project. Project construction will avoid impacts to all utilities.

*KL 11/26/07*



Project Area  
 Mercer Slough Drainage Network



2,200 1,100 0 2,200  

 Feet

**Jones & Stokes**

Figure 1. Project Vicinity

West Tributary Habitat Restoration  
 Kelsey Creek Park, Bellevue, Washington  
 August 2007